

KEYSTONE WING SLIP

**PENNSYLVANIA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL
NEWS MAGAZINE**

WWW.PAWG.CAP.GOV



On the road to success! From left to right, top row, Cadets; Maria Quatse and Gabrielle Quatse. From left to right, bottom row, Cadets; Amberly Bonilla and Erin Nelson. See pages 4-5

**APRIL 2006
VOL. 22**



IN THIS ISSUE,

CAP

**SUCCESS
STORIES**

SEE PAGES 4-5

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE,

**PILOT SURVIVES
PLANE CRASH**

**RESULTS OF '06
COLOR GUARD
COMPETITION**

PAWG CALENDAR



PAWG CAP CALENDAR

APRIL 2006

| | | | | |
|---------|-----------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1,2 | 800-1330 | Third Ranger Staff Training Weekend | Hawk Mt | Lt David Shuey |
| 1 | 830- | 2006 Color Guard Competition | Aviation Brigade Building FIG | Maj A. Gibbons |
| 8,9 | 800-1330 | Forth Ranger Staff Training Weekend | Hawk Mt | Lt David Shuey |
| 8 to 16 | | Florida Falcon Ranger School | FL | Maj Cahalen |
| 22 | | CAC FIG, Bldg 3-108 | 1Lt Heather Sterner | |
| 22 | | PAWG Staff Meeting | FIG, Bldg 3-108 | Lt Col Walter Vertreace |
| 29, 30 | 800-1330 | Fifth Ranger Staff Training Weekend (Tour Weekend) | Hawk Mt | Lt David Shuey |
| 29 | 1500 | Dedication of Admin Office to Lt Col Betty Jones | Hawk Mt | Maj Cahalen |
| 29,30 | 1000-1330 | Publication Meeting | Hawk Mt Lt Col Runyan | |

MAY 2006

| | | | | |
|-------|------------------|--|---------------------|------------------|
| 5,6,7 | | NER CADET COMPTITION | | |
| 6,7 | After PAWG SAREX | PAWG SAR EX | | |
| 20,21 | 800-1330 | (Tentative) Hawk Work Weekend/Testing/Tutoring weekend | Hawk Mt | Maj Cahalen |
| 20,21 | 800-1330 | Sixth Ranger Staff Training | Hawk Mt | Lt David Shuey |
| 20 | | ES & 101 Training Weekend open to all | Hawk Mt | Capt Hal Roach |
| 20 | | CAC | 1Lt Heather Sterner | |
| 20 | | PAWG Staff Meeting | | Lt Col Vertreace |

JUNE 2006

| | | | | |
|-------|-----------|--|-------------------|----------------|
| 2,3,4 | 1900-1330 | Seventh Ranger Staff Training Weekend Survival & Rope | Hawk Mt | Lt David Shuey |
| 10,11 | 800-1600 | 8th Staff Training Weekend and Graduation | Hawk Mt | Lt David Shuey |
| 11, | 1500 | Ranger Staff Graduation | Hawk Mt | Lt David Shuey |
| 17-24 | All Times | CLS | Ft Indiantown Gap | Capt Lesisko |
| 24,25 | 800-1600 | Tutoring and Testing Weekend | Hawk Mt | Maj Cahalen |
| 25 | 0900-1600 | Hawk Mt Ranger Sch.- preschool set-up, mtg. & Staff Picnic | Hawk Mt | Maj Cahalen |

JULY 2006

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|---|-------------------|------------------|
| 6 to 11 | | National Cadet Competition | | |
| 07 to 17 | All Times | Hawk Mountain Ranger School Staff Dates | Hawk Mountain | Maj Cahalen |
| 08 to 16 | All Times | Hawk Mt Ranger School | Hawk Mountain | Maj Cahalen |
| 15 | | PAWG Staff Meeting | FTIG | Lt Col Vertreace |
| 15 | 1600-2200 | 50th Anniversary Hawk Mt Ranger School Skit Night | Hawk Mountain | Maj Cahalen |
| 15 to 22 | All Times | Powered Flight Encampment | Franklin PA | Capt Bill Doyel |
| 19 to Aug 2 | | IACE | | |
| 22 to 29 | All Times | PAWG Encampment | Ft Indiantown Gap | Maj Postupack |
| 22 to 29 | All Times | Glider School | TBA | Capt Buchman |

SPEEDY RECOVERY WISHES TO ONE OF OUR OWN

Pilot injured as small plane crash-lands at Morristown Airport

-BY ROB SEMAN, DAILY RECORD

HANOVER -- The pilot of a twin-engine propeller plane was taken to the hospital after the plane crashed just short of a runway at Morristown Airport on Monday night.

Police said at 5:51 p.m. the Piper Aztec flown by Randall Manaka, 53, of Rydal, Pa., experienced landing gear problems and may have been pushed into the ground by wind. The plane crashed 200 feet short of Runway 31, police said. Just before the crash landing, the pilot reported trouble with the plane's right landing gear, but did not offer any further details.

Jim Peters of the FAA said Monday night that the plane remained in brush near the runway and that officials would not inspect it until this morning. Officially the crash was listed as an "incident," but could be upgraded to an "accident" pending today's inspection, he said.

Manaka, the sole occupant of the plane, was taken to Morristown Memorial Hospital after complaining of pain in his back and left hip, and a numb feeling in his left thigh.

Police said the undercarriage, left wing and right propeller of the plane sustained damage.

The plane, owned by Northeast Aviation, based at Northeast Philadelphia Airport, was on final approach in its flight from the Philadelphia area, police said.

According to the National Weather Service Web site, wind was recorded at 16 miles per hour with gusts up to 22 miles per hour at the airport at 5:45 p.m.

Editor's note: Lieutenant Colonel Randall C. Manaka, is a Civil Air Patrol member and experienced CAP pilot who has served as a mission pilot, mission check pilot and he has served as an incident commander. Lt Col Manaka is a former Director of Operations and a former Wing Chief of Staff of PAWG. "Lt Col Manaka is one of CAP's best pilots. This incident could have been a very tragic accident had it been an inexperienced pilot landing that aircraft," said Lt Col Robert Meinert, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Wing.

Now on the road to recovery, Lt Col Manaka asked me to let the readers of the Pennsylvania Keystone Wing Slip know that he is doing well. "All of the training and even the 'finds' that are not 'saves', are truly important lessons when the chips are down and one has to make split-second decisions. The experience and confidence one gains from CAP are invaluable. Please let everybody know that I am in GREAT shape for a speedy recovery....it's nothing short of miraculous!", said Lt Col Manaka.

On behalf of all the members in Pennsylvania Wing, we wish Lt Col Manaka a speedy and complete recovery. We are looking forward to seeing him back on the "team roster" real soon! - 1Lt Linda A. Irwin

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Celebrates 50 Years**
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Members**
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**Remembering
Cadet Nelson**
-back cover

**PENNSYLVANIA
WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL
US AIR FORCE
AUXILIARY
Bldg. 3-108
Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003**

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HAWK MOUNTAIN RANGER PROGRAM

HAWK MOUNTAIN RANGER PROGRAM CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



Part 1 of a 3 part story *by, Major Anne Gibbons*



In 1956 cadet Edward Gibbons pitched his canvas half shelter tent in the pouring rain on a rocky mountainside. He settled in with his tent mate for the night, awaiting his guard shift. In 1963 cadet Charles Wedge kissed his mother goodbye, donned his backpack, and headed up the mountain to his campsite. In 1971 cadet Ralph Jones sat among the tall pine trees, perspiration dripping down his brow as he learned how to bandage wounds, and splint fractures. In 1975 cadet Lynn Smith bellowed commands across the parade field, as she led her squadron in the parade and review march. In 1989 cadet Julian Rivera hiked for miles, only carrying the bare essentials, as he honed his survival skills training. In 1995, brothers Alex and Ian Hanna raced across the obstacle course, the scent of morning dew and perspiration filling the air, as they tested their physical endurance. In 2004 cadet Kara Smith pitched her nylon dome tent in the pouring rain on a rocky mountainside. She settled in with her tent mate for the night, awaiting her guard shift.

Each of these members represents a generation of CAP volunteers whose lives have been impacted by the Hawk Mountain Ranger School.

In 50 years, thousands of volunteers have trained and experienced the honor and traditions of the longest running civilian search and rescue program in the United States. Much has changed in those 50 years, and much has remained the same.

The school is nine days long, but the experience of each student lasts a lifetime. Lynn (Smith) Gemperle, can attest to that. She was one of the first female cadets to attend the program in the early 1970's, and went on to pave the way for future female staff cadets. "I don't think there's a day that goes by that I don't use something that I learned at Hawk. It really gave me the opportunity to work with a variety of people at a young age". A graduate of Penn State, she was commissioned in the USAF, and served 15 years active duty as a bio-environmental engineer. She currently serves as a LTC in the USAF Reserve.

Shortly after his cadet experience at Hawk Mountain, Charles Wedge served as a helicopter crew chief with the 1st Air Cavalry from 1966-1967. He is still involved in CAP, serving as the squadron commander of Squadron 123 in Pennsylvania. "My Hawk Mountain experience taught me about teamwork and esprit de corps. When you thought you couldn't move or take another step, your fellow cadets were there for you, and you for them. This is what helped me make it through Vietnam."

Julian Rivera, CAP member for 18 years, is a graduate of Virginia Military Institute, a Captain in the US Marine Corps, and a UH1N gunship helicopter pilot. He served 4 years in combat in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. "I would tell Hawk stories to my crew members during the war. It took us away from the war, if only for a few minutes. My crew loved hearing the stories."



(Article to be continued in next issue of the Keystone Wing Slip.)

On Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 3:00 PM The Administration Office will be dedicated to Lt Col Betty Jones. Everyone is welcome to attend the Memorial Services and Dedication of the newly constructed Administration Office at the Colonel Phillip Neuweiler Memorial Ranger Training Facility; Hawk Mt Ranger School.

Lt Col Betty Jones, CAP - 24 July 1933 -11 May 1998

Betty tirelessly kept the paperwork at Hawk Mt Ranger School running very smoothly from 1983 until 1997, as the Hawk Mountain Administration Officer. She started her training by attending the Hawk Mt Ranger School Sr. Basic Course in 1975 and returned on staff 1983 until 1997. Three of Betty's children and one grandchild attended the school. Janet, Laurie, and her son in-law Bryan Watson have served on Ranger Staff. Contributions donated to her memorial fund will help provide supplies and training materials for the school. Betty and her family are very dedicated to the entire CAP program.

RESULTS OF '06 COLOR GUARD COMPETITION

Congratulations to Squadrons 1008 and 104 who took first and second place respectively at the annual 2006 Color Guard Competition.

Teams were judged in the areas of: written test, uniform inspection, aerospace panel quiz, standard drill, folding of the American Flag, indoor posting of colors, and mile run.

Both teams should be commended on their hard work and dedication.

The PAWG Color Guard Competition is held around March-April each year. Squadrons are encouraged to start a team for next year!

PAWG has had great success in recent years with 2 squadrons competing at the national level.

Best of luck 1008 at Region Competition in May!

PENNSYLVANIA WING SQUADRONS HAVE BEEN WAITING AND WATCHING FOR IT. NOW, HERE IT COMES!

This new cadet course will be presented during the same week as Basic Cadet Encampment with instruction covering Color Guard / Honor Guard techniques as well as Team Building and Leadership skills necessary to have and maintain professional looking CAP units. Cadet enrollment will run at the same time as Basic Cadet Encampment.

REQUIREMENTS:

Cadets must have attended the Basic Cadet Encampment course prior to attending this course. Thirty cadets are wanted to fill the initial class for 2006.

WHY A NEW "PHASE" OF ENCAMPMENT?

Our PA Wing Commander is looking to constantly improve all aspects of each part of Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Program. This summer's new encampment offers cadets the opportunity to develop squadron programs to accomplish this vision. We want to produce colors teams with the professional look of the United States Air Force.

WHY?

Each PA Wing Squadron has the cadet resources necessary to build a competent and lasting color guard team. This encampment experience will offer cadets the atmosphere to learn.

WHY?

Cadets are eager to improve and they possess the desire to learn and instruct other members of their squadron in the skills learned during this new course.

WHY?

Teamwork among volunteers takes constant dedication. This encampment will provide many of the tools necessary to accomplish Col Applebaum's vision for the PA Wing.

WHY?

Squadrons will forever strive to improve and compete annually. They will look their best during ceremonies, parades, or any public appearances.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE PA WING CADET SERVER FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Capt Bob Frost Phase II Encampment Commander

CAP SUCCESS STORIES

"I truly believe that Civil Air Patrol had a great deal of influence on the positive future goals of my daughters, Maria and Gabrielle," said Denise Quatse, mother of these talented sisters.



Maria and Gabrielle Quatse have been members of Squadron 304, Lancaster, PA since April 2002. Both girls have received the Billy Mitchell and the Amelia Earhart awards and each earned the rank of Cadet Captains.

Gabrielle, pictured top left, was accepted into the Naval Summer Seminar Academy during her senior year in high school. After extensive and competitive interviewing, Gabrielle was dually nominated by Congressman Joseph Pitts (16th district) for acceptance to both the US Naval Academy and US Military Academy at West Point. She also received the nomination for the US Military Academy at West Point by Senator Arlen Specter. She received appointments to both but chose the Military Academy at West Point and plans to major in the field of engineering. (Out of 13,000 applications, 4,000 are nominated and only 1,200 are admitted. Out of the 1,200, 194 are women.)



Maria Quatse, pictured on the bottom left, has been working to obtaining her private pilot's license. She was the recipient of two Group 2 powered flight scholarships and a scholarship from a local Aero Club, Experimental Aviation Association (Vintage Aero Club) stationed at Smoketown Airport. Maria is currently a freshman at Temple University in Philadelphia where she is majoring in English. She was the recipient of Type 7 Scholarship for the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, (ROTC), a fully paid scholarship for Temple University. She is a ROTC Cadet in Detachment 750 at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. Her goals include competing for a pilot slot in the United States Air Force where she is hoping to make the military a career.

We congratulate the Quatse sisters on their accomplishments and future goals.

CADET FROM NEIGHBORING STATE SAVES FATHER'S LIFE

James Bonilla, suffers from severe vascular problems. On Monday, February 13, he ruptured a blood vessel in his left leg. He said, "my daughter Amberly Bonilla saved my life!" Around 9 A.M. on the morning of the 13th, when the vein on his left leg burst and started to bleed uncontrollably, Cadet Bonilla immediately started to help control the bleeding. Once his leg was wrapped and covered with a plastic bag, Cadet Bonilla drove her father to the emergency room. "Amberly never hesitated once during this emergency situation. She was in control the whole time and drove under a great deal of pressure and stress to the hospital emergency room. I attribute her competency for handling this emergency situation to the training that she has received in the Civil Air Patrol. If she had not been home at the time and acted in such a professional manner, I would not be alive today," as he was quoted in a local Rutland newspaper; The Tribune.

"My training at Hawk Mountain, was really worth it, because I saved my father's life!" said Cadet Bonilla proudly.

The Pennsylvania Keystone Wing Slip Readers are very proud of you too, Cadet Bonilla!



*C/2nd Lt Amberly Bonilla
Rutland Composite Squadron,
Vermont*

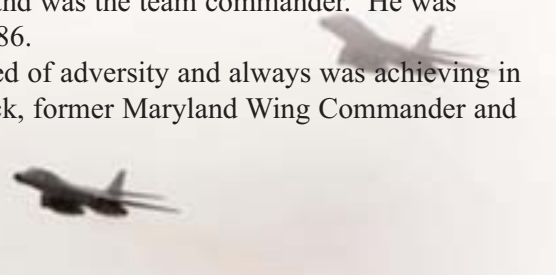
Congratulations to former PAWG cadet; Lt Col Randy Allen

Lt Col Randy Allan, former PA Wing cadet, assumed the command of the 9th Bomb Squadron at Dyess AFB during a military ceremony on 10 March 2006..

Lt Col Allen is an Air Force Academy graduate. Among his many awards is the Distinguished Flying Cross. He has over 1000 hours in the B-1B Lancer, as well as thousands in both the B-52 and T-43(737). As a cadet, he earned the Earhart award.

Lt Col Allen was a member of the Erie Composite Squadron 502 from 1976 to 1982. He was the cadet commander from February 1979 to June 1980. He attended the Pennsylvania Wing Encampment at Fort Indiantown Gap in 1978. He was an active member of the squadron ranger team and was the team commander. He was appointed to the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1982 and graduated in 1986.

"He always wanted to fly. He was an outstanding cadet. He never tired of adversity and always was achieving in and out of Civil Air Patrol and the classroom," said Colonel Larry Trick, former Maryland Wing Commander and former 502 cadet.



ERIN NELSON EARNS CIVIL AIR PATROL'S HIGHEST CADET HONOR

Cadet Erin Nelson, a member of the Golden Triangle Composite Squadron, was presented the General Carl A. Spaatz Award during a recent ceremony held in the Consolidated Club at the 911th Air Force Reserve Base. Presenting Cadet Nelson with her Cadet Colonel Applets were Commander of the 603rd, Captain Robert Frost, and Colonel Patricia S. Blassie, Commander, 911th Mission Support Group. (See photo - top left) "Cadet Colonel Nelson becomes the first 603rd member to achieve this award in my tenure as the 603rd Commander. This is a major achievement for any cadet and we of the Golden Triangle Composite Squadron 603 are justly proud of Cadet Colonel Nelson," said Captain Frost.

Cadet Nelson also received a \$1,000 scholarship. Presenting her with a 'mock' check, is Captain Frost. (Bottom left photo.)

Congratulations Erin! You are now one of CAP's best of the best!



Our First Missions are Now Our Newest Missions

Civil Air Patrol is uniquely positioned to conduct operations in support of the nation's homeland security initiatives. With decades of operational experience, CAP can provide low-cost airborne assets across the nation, all manned by mission-ready personnel who have demonstrated capability to work with federal, military, state and local agencies across the spectrum of homeland security.

As the civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, CAP has now been placed under the Air Force Homeland Security Directorate. CAP leaders recently met with U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge to discuss CAP's expanding role in protecting the home skies. CAP members have proven themselves capable, having assisted in relief efforts after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11. CAP also provided security for the Winter Olympics soon thereafter and has been asked by NASA to provide flights above its spacecraft launch sites.

CAP increases our nation's security capabilities by providing airborne reconnaissance and imagery, disaster and damage assessment, airborne transportation of personnel, equipment and critical supplies, and multi-layered communications support. CAP can provide manpower for communications and emergency operations centers, search and rescue teams, and ground support teams.

CAP can put a manned airborne platform over any major city or strategic resource in the country in less than two hours, safely and cost-effectively.



Congratulations to our winners of the "Find the Shamrock" in the March Issue of the Keystone Wing Slip

Credited with the "find" were Lt Col Roysetta Bruner and Lt Col Stanton Altzman. For those of you that were not aware of the location of the "hidden Shamrock", it was located on the front cover on the bottom right hand corner, underneath Captain Pamela Russell's name. We hope the winners enjoyed their prizes! Please let us know if you would like us to continue with our "find the item" game in the Wing Slip. Send your comments to us at pawghqcap@aol.com. Thanks for reading the Pennsylvania Civil Air Patrol Keystone Wing Slip!

William P. O'Hara
President

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FORMER CADET EARNS HIS "MULTI" WINGS!

Dallas, TX, Capt. Josh Hall (former Squadron 502 cadet) passed his multi engine check ride and now has that rating to add to his aerospace portfolio!

"What a way to spend spring break," reports his father, John Hall, of Erie, Pennsylvania.

CONGRATULATIONS JOSH!

CADET SMITH RECEIVES MITCHELL AWARD

Cadet 2Lt, Sarah Smith, from Squadron 1408, was presented her Billy Mitchell Award by Lt Col Ronald Tuman, Commander of Group 3, during a recent squadron event held last month. Cadet Smith serves as the Cadet Commander for the Squadron and hopes to enlist in the PA National Guard, after graduation.



WAY TO GO, CADET SMITH!

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

The following Cadets have recently achieved CAP Awards;

Receiving the Amelia Earhart Award,

Michael A. Kopchak

and Receiving the Billy Mitchell Award,

Keven R. Bernner

Andrew W. Gracy

Cassandra L. Pasquerell

Emily K. Rentschler

Kyle A. Timmons

Nathan G. Tunstall



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MYERSTOWN HERALD

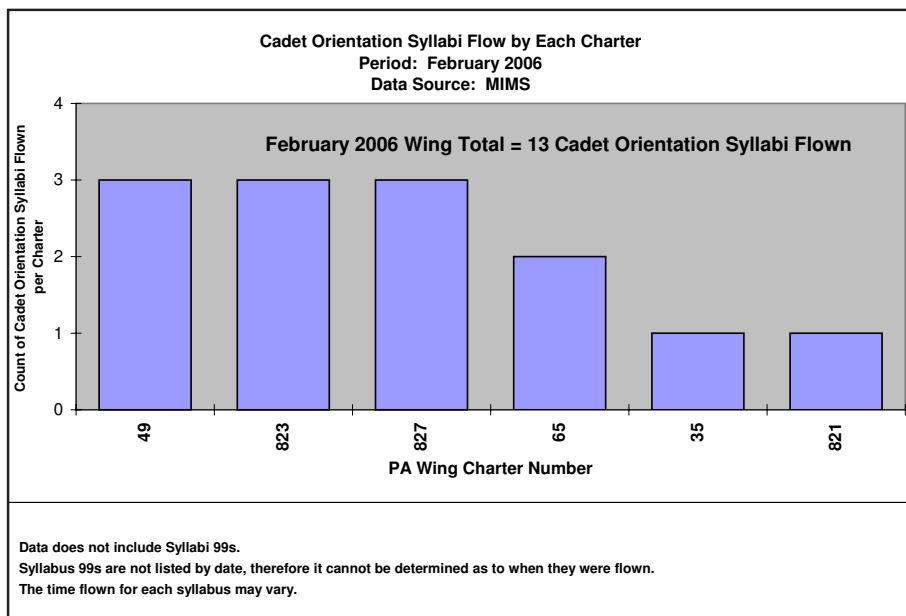
A LOCAL NEWSPAPER THAT PEOPLE ACTUALLY READ

8 CADET FLIGHT ORIENTATION REPORT - FEBRUARY 2006



| Charter | Squadron | # Syllabi Flown Feb. 2006 |
|---------|--|------------------------------|
| 9 | Erie Composite 502 | |
| 10 | Jesse Jones Composite 304 | |
| 11 | Penn State University 1303 | |
| 18 | Gen Carl A. Spaatz Composite 812 | |
| 21 | York Composite 301 | |
| 25 | Allegheny County Composite 602 | |
| 26 | Allentown Optimist Composite 801 | |
| 35 | Quakertown Composite 904 | 1 |
| 45 | Harrisburg International Composite 306 | |
| 48 | Philadelphia Composite 103 | |
| 49 | Philadelphia Composite 102 | 3 |
| 60 | Capital City Composite 302 | |
| 61 | Monroeville Composite 604 | |
| 65 | Willaimsport Composite 401 | 2 |
| 66 | Hazleton Composite 203 | |
| 80 | Coatesville Composite 1008 | |
| 89 | Reading Composite 811 | |
| 93 | Composite Squadron 1001 | |
| 102 | Lower Bucks County Cadet 101 | |
| 105 | Delco Composite 1007 | |
| 109 | Somerset County Composite 1502 | |
| 133 | Golden Triangle Composite 603 | |
| 143 | Maj D. Beatty 501 | |
| 146 | Doylestown Composite 907 | |
| 160 | NAS Willow Grove JRB Squadron 902 | |
| 190 | Butler Composite 712 | |
| 199 | Johnstown Composite 1501 | |
| 214 | NE Philadelphia Composite 104 | |
| 230 | Delmont Cadet 1407 | |
| 253 | Jimmy Stewart Composite 714 | |

| Charter | Squadron | # Syllabi Flown Feb. 2006 |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 259 | Wyoming Valley Composite 209 | |
| 262 | Southmoreland Composite 1408 | |
| 265 | Lebanon VFW Cadet 307 | |
| 270 | Latrobe Composite 1405 | |
| 288 | Keystone County Cadet 1504 | |
| 292 | Mount Pocono Composite 207 | |
| 296 | Lehigh Valley Composite 805 | |
| 301 | West Philadelphia Composite 1006 | |
| 303 | Bangor Slate Belt Flight 807 | |
| 310 | Beaver County Composite 704 | |
| 324 | Allegheny Valley Composite 711 | |
| 326 | Clarion Composite 504 | |
| 328 | Rostraver Eagle Composite 605 | |
| 332 | West Middlesex Composite 122 | |
| 335 | Bedford Composite Flight 202 | |
| 336 | Black Diamond Flight 204 | |
| 337 | Black Diamond Flight 204 | |
| 801 | Rising Horizons Quest 820 | |
| 820 | Rising Horizons Quest 820 | |
| 821 | Creighton Cadet 821 | |
| 821 | Creighton Cadet 821 | 1 |
| 822 | Roosevelt Middle School 822-1 | |
| 823 | Northeast High School Flight 823 | 3 |
| 824 | Wagner Middle School Cadet 824 | |
| 825 | Franklin Academics Cadet 825 | |
| 826 | Finletter Middles School Cadet 826 | |
| 827 | Shaw Middle School Composite 827 | 3 |
| 828 | Peirce M S Cadet 828 | |
| | | |
| | | |



ONE OF OUR OWN, continued

His interest in aviation benefited his enthusiasm for field sports and hunting and had flown on extensive hunting expeditions as far away as the Rocky Mountains, Canada, the Bering Strait and Arctic Circle. He shot a polar bear in 1958 that was declared the largest ever bagged in the American Arctic. This bear was mounted and displayed at many sportsmen's shows and expositions throughout the Lehigh Valley. It has been said the polar bear is now resides at Muhlenberg College. Colonel Neuweiler served on the Boards of the Lehigh Agricultural Society and was and trustee of Sacred Heart Hospital.

Colonel Neuweilers enthusiasm for flying and the development of aviation in the area will be long remembered. This now leads us to his Civil Air Patrol career.



After WWII broke out, Col .Neuweiler was a principal factor in the formation of the CAP not only locally, but throughout the State and on a National level. He was appointed Training Officer in 1943 during the formative years of the 31st Pennsylvania Wing. During this period he formed the first Drill team in the Pennsylvania Wing, a "Wing" drill team. This has been documented on film which has been converted from celluloid to DVD and is available at Wing Headquarters. It was shown at the last Wing Conference. Colonel Neuweiler was appointed Wing Commander on 16 August 1945 and served until 31 March 1946 and again, from 9 August 1947 until 21 march 1970, the longest tenure of any Wing Commander in Civil Air Patrol history. Something that we will never see again. During the span of his career, Colonel Neuweiler accomplished some notable achievements. For example; he was designated as the first Search Pilot in the Wing, flew the first mercy mission and went on to fly 386 mercy flights in addition to many "as we then called them SAR Missions (also for training flights) and Redcaps (actual SAR authorized missions) ". He was the first to land on an open highway during some of the CD Missions and paved the way for such flights during Civil Defense training Exercises which were conducted as part of the training program in the 50's and 60's. The first ground to air message pickup, etc and the list goes on and on. In the process, Colonel Neuweiler at last count in 1966, accumulated over 5000 flying hours since starting flying in 1929.

He has the distinction of being the Pennsylvania Wings First Ranger and formed the first Ranger Team. And also formed the first Pennsylvania Wing Squadron, Squadron 801. You guessed it; they held their meetings in a property owned by the brewery three blocks north of the main plant. Something else that the Rangers should know and be thankful for, is the fact that Colonel Neuweiler owned a pheasant farm on one of the three adjoining properties in the surrounding area one of which was the Pine Swamp area that is now site of the Hawk Mountain Ranger Training Area. The fact that he owned the property which was one farm broken down into parcels, was to be sold at foreclosure as part of the aforementioned bankruptcy. This made it possible for a few CAP individuals who formed Rangers Incorporated, to purchase the Pine Swamp Road property, at auction and eventually donating the property to National Headquarters in 1983 thus assuming custody of the property and having it remain a CAP entity. I'll bet a lot of your rangers didn't know that! This facility is a big part of his legacy and should so be preserved. He designed a badge for the Ranger program which many are unaware which consisted of a skull and cross bones with a cross on top of the skull. Needless to say, it didn't go too far and had a limited distribution. Having probably the only remaining article, I still do not understand the significance, only he did and we will never know unless someone out there comes forward with an explanation.

(Part two of a three part story, by Col Paul R. Kopczynski, PA Wing Historian)

(Story to be continued in May issue of the Keystone Wing Slip.)

(Special thanks to Richard Ludwig, Herb Cahalen and Tom Jensen for filling in the "blanks".)

REMEMBERING ONE OF OUR CADETS

Twenty year old Penn State sophomore, and former cadet, John R. Nelson, died in an automobile accident on March 18, 2006, as he was returning to State College from a visit in Julian.

John was a former member of the Allegheny Composite Squadron 602. "He will be sadly missed. John was a fantastic person," said Major Dave Hege, CAP Retired. John was a Cadet Master Sergeant and had logged enough hours of flight time to fly solo. He also served as vice president of the Penn State Rifle Club. He was a volunteer field team leader for the Centre County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Team.

John's mother was quoted as saying, "In some ways he must have known he would have a short life because he lived it to the fullest." When she was asked what word she would use to describe her son, she said it would be "humanitarian", "He really enjoyed life and was very active, a good leader in everything he did," said his girlfriend Anya Ryba. *(Quotes were taken from the Collegian newspaper.)*

*Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of
former Cadet, John R. Nelson.*

